

FULBRIGHT VIETNAMESE STUDENT PROGRAM



Grants for Master's study programs in the United States
Application Guidelines

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Fulbright prospective applicant:

I am pleased to introduce you to the Fulbright Vietnamese Student Program and welcome you to explore the opportunities it presents to you.

The Fulbright Vietnamese Student Program is a masters program in the U.S. which encompasses various disciplines in the social science and humanities, business, economics, communication studies, development studies, community development, governance and so on. Whatever the field of study of its grantees, the Fulbright experience has enlarged and deepened the perspective of potential leaders.

Challenge yourself by making a determination to pursue a Fulbright grant, this process requires a lot of preparation and effort, but in the end you will find that your success was worth the effort. Apart from gaining academic excellence and professional skills from the top-notch U.S. graduate programs, you will have the chance to represent Vietnam as a cultural ambassador to the United States and to carry out the Fulbright mission of promoting cross cultural understanding between the two countries. By participating in the Fulbright program, you join a community of exceptionally well qualified Fulbright alumni who are now making great contributions to the development of Vietnam.

Our application and selection process is open and transparent. Winners are selected based on individual merit and leadership qualities. This booklet provides you an overview of the Fulbright Program worldwide and detailed instructions on application and selection process that you need to follow. By following the instructions, you will be well on your way to becoming a successful Fulbright applicant.

I hope that the information provided in this booklet will encourage you to learn more about our program and to apply for a Fulbright grant for the academic year 2014-2015. If you need any other information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Nguyen Thi Hanh, who is in charge of the Vietnamese Student Program at Tel: (+844) 3850-5089 or Email: nguyenHT4@state.gov.

Again, welcome to the Fulbright Vietnamese Student Program and we look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,



Vu Quynh Nga
Director

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HISTORY OF THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM

THE FULBRIGHT VIETNAMESE STUDENT PROGRAM

THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by former Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and those of other countries. The Fulbright Program is administered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State. Approximately 310,000 “Fulbrighters,” 116,900 from the United States and 192,800 from other countries, have participated in the Program since its inception more than sixty years ago. The Fulbright Program awards approximately 8,000 grants annually. Currently, the Fulbright Program operates in over 155 countries worldwide.

The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation made by the United States Congress to the Department of State. Participating governments and host institutions in foreign countries and in the United States also contribute financially through cost-sharing and indirect support, such as salary supplements, tuition waivers and university housing.

The J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FSB), composed of 12 educational and public leaders appointed by the President of the United States, formulates policy for the administration of the Program, establishes criteria for the selection of candidates and approves candidates nominated for awards.

The United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, develops policies to assure fulfillment of the purposes of the Program and administers it with the assistance of bi-national educational commissions and foundations in some 50 countries that have executive agreements with the United States for continuing exchange programs, United States embassies in 90 other countries and a number of cooperating agencies in the United States.

The Institute of International Education (IIE), a private nonprofit organization, has been contracted by the United States Department of State, to place successful Fulbright candidates at suitable programs at different U.S. universities and colleges. IIE also assists and maintains contact with Fulbright grantees and their academic advisers for the duration of their stay in the United States.



THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM IN VIETNAM

The Fulbright Program in Vietnam started in 1992 before the U.S. re-established the diplomatic relationship with Vietnam. The Program administered and coordinated by the Public Affairs Section (PAS) of the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi, works with appropriate Vietnamese and American educational and governmental organizations to provide opportunities for study and research in the social sciences and humanities to all candidates who qualify through open competition on the basis of academic and professional merit, without regard to race, religion, gender or affiliation.

The Fulbright Program in Vietnam has four core components:

- U.S. Scholar Program
- Vietnamese Scholar Program
- U.S. Student Program
- Vietnamese Student Program

and other components:

- Senior Specialist Program
- English Teaching Assistantship Program
- Occasional Lecturing Program
 - In-country Travel Plan
 - Regional Travel Plan

OVERVIEW

The Fulbright Vietnamese Student Program (also known as the Fulbright Foreign Student Program) is an open, competitive, merit-based scholarship program. The Program recruits and nominates young Vietnamese professionals for Master’s degree programs at U.S. universities. Approximately 20 to 25 fully-funded scholarships are granted on an annual basis.

The mission of the Fulbright Program is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and people of other countries. It aims to provide educational exchange experiences to a maximum number of individuals not previously afforded such an opportunity. The experience should be of intrinsic value to the student, the recipient’s home institution, as well as to the U.S. host institution. Fulbright students serve as cultural ambassadors and should be prepared to speak about their countries, cultures and study to academic and community groups.

The Program has provided thousands of students with the opportunity to return home personally invigorated and professionally stimulated.

GRANT BENEFITS

The Fulbright Grant is a full-scholarship that covers tuition and fees, monthly stipend, round-trip airfare to the U.S. and health insurance. The monthly stipend rates are set by the U.S. Department of State. These rates are the estimated costs established to cover a grantee’s cost of living, including housing, food, transportation and incidental expenses. The rates for each location may vary according to the standard of living in a given locality.

The Fulbright grants are for the full length of the master’s study program, and are renewable on an annual basis. Students are eligible to apply for grant renewal on the condition that they are in “good academic standing” (has a “B” average). Upon successful completion of the program, students will earn a Master’s degree in 1-2 years, depending on the length of each academic program.

A grant may be revoked, terminated, or suspended. Grounds for revocation or termination include, but are not limited to: (1) violation of any law of the United States or the home country; (2) any act likely to give offense to the United States; (3) failure to observe satisfactory academic or professional standards; (4) physical or mental incapacitation; (5) engaging in any unauthorized income-

producing activity; (6) failure to comply with the grant’s terms and conditions; (7) material misrepresentation made by any grantee in the application form or grant document; (8) conduct which may have the effect of bringing the U.S. Department of State or the Fulbright Program into disrepute; and (9) violation of the policies of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FSB).

A grant may be suspended if (1) the grantee ceases to carry out the project or academic program during the grant period or (2) the grantee leaves the United States for more than two weeks without authorization of the Fulbright Commission/U.S. Embassy or supervising agency.

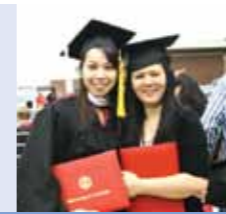
PAST FULBRIGHT GRANTEES’ PROFILES

The Fulbright Program has been able to select diverse groups of grantees to participate in the Program. Since 1992, more than 500 Vietnamese students have been awarded Fulbright grants to pursue their graduate studies in the United States. They have a broad representation of fields of study, age, geographical areas and affiliations.

- All ages: in their 20s, 30s, 40s
- Diverse fields of study in social sciences and humanities
- All areas of Vietnam: An Giang, Can Tho, Quang Tri, Nghe An, Hue, Da Nang, Thanh Hoa, Kien Giang, Lang Son, Ninh Binh, Lam Dong, Tay Nguyen, Bac Lieu, Khanh Hoa as well as Ho Chi Minh City and Ha Noi
- All types of companies, institutions, organizations: universities, high schools, NGOs, private companies, state-owned companies, government ministries, etc.



THE FULBRIGHT VIETNAMESE STUDENT PROGRAM



ELIGIBLE FIELDS OF STUDY

The Fulbright Vietnamese Student Program supports all fields in social sciences, humanities, and business. Most typical fields can be found below:

American Literature	Education	Psychology
American Studies	Environmental Studies	Public Administration
Agricultural Economics	Management of IT/Information system	Public Policy
Anthropology	Journalism	Public Health
Archaeology	Law	Social Work
Art/Film Studies	Library Science	Sociology
Business (all fields)	Linguistics/Language teaching	Urban/Community Planning
Communications	Philosophy	Women/Gender Studies
Development Studies	Political Science	
Economics	Project/Program Management	

(A brief introduction of each field of study can be found on the Program's website: <http://vietnam.usembassy.gov/fvst.html>. Please contact the Fulbright office if your desired field of study is not on the list.)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS

All candidates must meet the following minimum requirements to be eligible to apply for a Fulbright grant:

1. Be a Vietnamese citizen (no dual citizenship)
2. Have at least one undergraduate degree
3. Have at least two years of work experience after graduation by the time of application
4. Have a valid minimum TOEFL iBT score of 79 or IELTS 6.5
(These requirements must be strictly followed.)

Ineligibility factors:

The following persons are ineligible to apply for a Fulbright student grant:

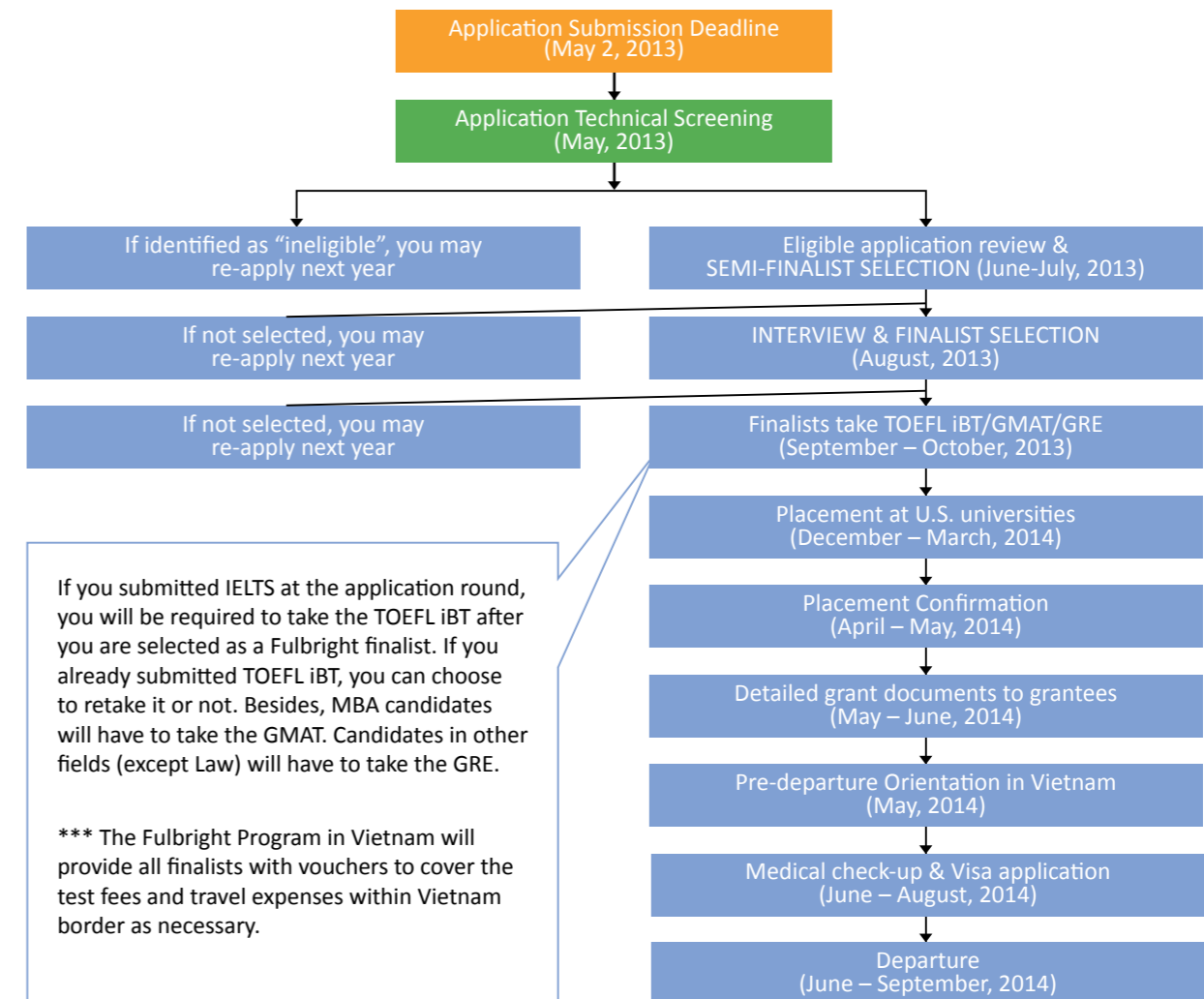
1. Candidates who already received one Fulbright Student Program grant
2. Candidates who are currently living or studying in the United States
3. Candidates who have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree from a U.S. college or university within the last 3 years (from the date on the diploma to the application deadline)
4. Local employees of the U.S. missions in Vietnam who work for the U.S. Department of State and their immediate dependents are ineligible for grants during the period of their employment and for one year following the termination of employment

SELECTION CRITERIA

Competition will be based on academic and professional merit, without regard to affiliation, race, religion, or gender. Preference is given to those without recent experience in the United States. A successful applicant is someone who can:

- Demonstrate a clear and detailed description of the study objectives, and show a clear connection between their study objectives and future goals through a compelling set of essays
- Have a depth and breadth of work experience in their intended field of study, and a full understanding of the field
- Show dedication to Vietnam & potential impact upon return
- Contribute to the mutual understanding between the people of the United States and Vietnam based on the participation in academic, extra-curricular, community and professional development activities, and personal attributes
- Obtain excellent letters of reference that reflect/cite/support the qualities above
- Have academic excellence and strong English proficiency

APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCESS



PLACEMENT AT U.S. UNIVERSITIES

Applicants do not need to obtain an admission offer from a U.S. university before applying to the Fulbright Program in Vietnam. If you are selected as a finalist, the Institute of International Education (IIE) will apply to the universities on your behalf. IIE has years of experience in placing international graduate students at U.S. institutions of higher education. The knowledgeable placement specialists are dedicated to matching each student with the best possible academic program.

Each IIE Placement Officer specializes in a field of study and conducts extensive research, seeking the best academic "fit" for each candidate. IIE, with consultation from the Fulbright Program in Vietnam, will apply for each student to four universities to create a balance submission plan. We take into account Fulbright program priorities, cost-sharing needs, the candidate's competitiveness, and the candidate's preferences. Officers advocate on the student's behalf to acquire admission and university cost-sharing. IIE will confirm final placements for the students at a certain university upon receiving approval from the Fulbright Program in Vietnam.

PREPARING THE APPLICATION

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

ALL APPLICANTS MUST APPLY ONLINE AT:

<https://apply.embark.com/student/fulbright/international/20/>

A complete online application package must include:

1. Application form
2. Two essays (study objectives and personal statement)
3. 03 letters of recommendation
4. Transcripts and diplomas
5. TOEFL iBT and/or IELTS score reports

Deadline for application submission: 5:00PM, May 2, 2013 (Hanoi time).

Emailed or faxed applications will not be considered.

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE APPLICATION.

STEP 1: Learn requirements for submitting an application

Be sure you meet all the eligibility requirements.

Planning ahead -- Advance planning will give you as much time as possible to put together a thoughtful and compelling application. Applicant review and final selection are based upon the actual application and accompanying materials. Your placement at a U.S. university will also be conducted based on the Fulbright application.

Consulting with friends and colleagues – You are encouraged to consult with Fulbright alumni and current participants who can provide valuable guidance in formulating a competitive application.

STEP 2: Record user ID and password in a safe place

Your email address is your user ID. When you created an account for this on-line application, you created a password. An e-mail was sent to you indicating your User ID and Password. Keep this information in a safe place. You can log in and out of the application as frequently as you like; however, you must have your user ID and password. While you cannot change your User ID, if necessary, you can change your password by clicking on "Update My Account" at the top of the Home page of this application.

STEP 3: Complete the application

You do not need to complete this application at one sitting. You can re-enter at anytime and edit your application. But remember that once you submit your application, you can NO longer make changes to it.

All forms in this application are to be completed in English. Items must be answered completely and carefully.

Some helpful "tips":

- Avoid using all capital letters when answering items, e.g. name, address, etc. It is better to use upper and lower case, e.g. Ron Smith.
- You can copy and paste information into all text boxes.
- In the text boxes, you must limit your responses to the space provided. Information that exceeds the space provided will not display or print. If what you have typed or copied exceeds the size of the box, you must edit it. It is a good idea to 'preview' each page of your application to make sure that all your data displays.

- You can review each page of the application in its PDF format by clicking on the Preview button on the upper right-hand corner. Closing out of the PDF view will bring you back to your application.
- You will create essays on pages 4, 5 and 6. On the essay pages, text entered that exceeds the space provided will display and print. However, it is recommended that you try to keep your essays to one page when possible.
- You have several ways in which you can create your essays.
 - » You can compose your essay on-line. Please note, there is a 40-minute 'time out' function. In other words, you will need to either complete your essay in 40 minutes or periodically save your essay. You will not be able to customize the formatting of your essay.
 - » You can copy and paste text from another document and edit online. Again, you will have a 40-minute "time-out" function. You will not be able to customize the formatting.
 - » You can upload text from another document. This is the only option where you will be able to have special formatting, e.g. bold, underline, headers, double spacing, etc. While you cannot edit an uploaded document on-line, you can delete your upload, make your corrections in your document off-line, and upload again.
 - » Pages 4 (study objective) and 5 (personal statement) contain a header that displays on the PDF view. Therefore, you must leave a 1½ inch (4cm) margin at the top of every page of your essays to allow space for the header that will appear on the print version of your application.
- You should preview all of your essays to make sure the formatting is correct before submitting your application by clicking the preview button in upper right-hand corner of the screen. When you preview an essay, you must use the "Back" browser button to return to your essay. Closing out of the HTML preview (i.e. clicking the X in the upper right-hand corner) will exit you from your application.
- Some questions are 'required.' In other words, you will not be able to complete and submit your application until all required items are completed. When you click on the Application Inspector button on the Home page, your application will be checked



for completeness. You will be prompted to enter any missing information on required questions.

Often specific instructions for completing a question or item will be provided in the application. Please read all instructions carefully. In addition, please review the following important information.

Preliminary Question Page: It is very important that the following questions are answered correctly:

- Question 1 –Country of Citizenship: Make sure that you properly identified the Fulbright country competition to which you are applying. Usually this will be the Fulbright Office in your country of citizenship.
- Question 2--Program: Make sure that you correctly identify the Fulbright Program to which you are applying. Most applicants will apply to the Fulbright Foreign Student Program. The other choice, the International Fulbright Science and Technology PhD Program, is a special world-wide competition that is a separate competition. If you have any questions regarding the programs, please contact the Fulbright Office in your country.

Item 1 - Name:

Follow the format requested on the application (Family/First/Middle). This will differ from the order written on your passport or other official Vietnamese documents. Example: Nguyen Thi Thu Hang (Vietnamese order) should be listed Nguyen (Family), Hang (First), Thi Thu (Middle).

Item 11 - Application Cycle: Please select 2014-2015.

- Degree Objective: Select “Master’s”

Item 12 - Field of Study: From the choices, select the field of study most appropriate to your study objective. You can also indicate your specialization and briefly elaborate on the exact nature of your objective in the text box that follows. Please note that the text box is limited to five lines of text.

Item 13 - Future plans: Please note that the text box is limited to five lines of text.

Item 14 - Institutions Attended: List all post-secondary institutions you have attended that have issued a diploma (đại học, cao đẳng, cao học). Do not list high school or middle school.

This list must include:

- » all Đại học, Cao đẳng, and Cao học degrees

This list should not include

- » secondary or high school diplomas
- » giấy chứng nhận/ chứng chỉ/certificates you received for workshops (you can list this information in your CV/resume)

Important note: Transcripts or official score reports (bảng điểm, phiếu điểm, học bạ, kết quả học tập) MUST be provided for each degree you list on your application. Transcripts that have been divided into two stages (giai đoạn I & II) must include BOTH stages.

Item 21 - Position Code: Please select from the drop down menu the position title which best describes the activity in which you are currently (or most recently) involved.

Item 22 - Occupational Experience: In the field, “Name of Employer,” please type the name of your organization or institution.

Page 4 - Study/Research Objective: The study/research objective description that you provide is an essential and highly important part of your application. You should take great care to write a clear and very detailed description of the program you want to pursue. Clearly identify the area(s) within your field of study in which you want to specialize or concentrate. Discuss how your proposed field of study fits in with your previous education, training and your future plan. If there is specific research that you want to accomplish, please describe. This essay will be forwarded to universities if you are selected as a finalist, so it is important to present your ideas in an organized way. If you write an incomplete or overly brief statement, you may not be placed at a university which best suits your academic needs and goals. As more than one university will read this application, you should not mention a specific institution in this section.

You should use plain English and limit your essay to 1000 words maximum.

Remember to leave a 1½ inch (4 cm) margin at the top of every page to allow room for the header that will appear on the PDF view. Preview your essay to check the formatting before submitting your application.

Page 5 - Personal Statement: The personal statement is a narrative statement in which you can include information about your education, practical experience, special interests, career plans, and your purpose in applying for study in the U.S. You can describe the significant factors that have influenced your education, personal and professional development and shaped you the way you are. You should highlight your achievements, do not be modest.

You should use plain English and limit your essay to 1000 words maximum.

Again, remember to leave a 1½ inch (4 cm) margin at the top of every page to allow room for the header that will appear on the PDF view. Preview your essay to check the formatting before submitting your application.

Page 6 - Resume/Curriculum Vitae: Please upload your most recent CV/resume (no longer than 2 pages). Please preview your information to check the formatting before submitting your application.

Page 7 - University Transcripts: Please scan all diplomas & transcripts into one file and upload it here.

If your degrees and/or transcripts were issued in English or bilingual, you just need to upload the scanned copies of the original documents. If your degrees and/or transcripts were issued in Vietnamese only, you need to upload the notarized translations of the documents.

Page 8 - Personal Information: The information provided on this form will be used by the Fulbright Program in Vietnam and Fulbright administrative agencies for internal purposes only.

Item 32 - National Identification Number: Do not complete

Page 9 - Personal Financial Information: Do not complete

Page 10 - University Preference: It is not an expectation that you will have U.S. university preferences. However, if you do, please complete this page as fully as possible. Do not just list the name of a university in which you are interested. Be specific. Provide the name of the department and the specific program within that department in which you are interested. If you have been in contact or correspondence with a faculty member, please provide the name and contact information for that individual.

If you have applied to a U.S. university within the past three years, please list the programs and the results. If you have letters of admission, letters of invitation, or other correspondence from a school, especially a preferred program, please forward a copy (not the original) of this correspondence to the Fulbright Program Office.

Page 11 - Writing Sample: Do not complete

Page 12 – Additional Upload Page: Please upload the scanned copies of your test score reports (TOEFL iBT, IELTS, GMAT, GRE). If you have more than one score reports, please scan them all in one file.

Please note that TOEFL iBT or IELTS scores must be valid by the application deadline. The validity of TOEFL iBT and IELTS is two years from the test dates to the application deadline.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

STEP 4: Supplemental forms

Skip this step

STEP 5: Recommendations

03 online letters of recommendations are required.

Letters of recommendation should provide more information about you as a person and show that the recommenders know your strengths and can talk about your potential. Recommendations can be obtained from teachers under whom you have studied or pursued research, or by professionals or colleagues who have supervised in work related to your proposed field of study. These should be people who know you best, and who are qualified to evaluate your professional work; your abilities and merits. References should NOT be written by persons related to you, by personal friends, or by people who do not know you well.

You should register for your recommenders to provide online recommendations for you. Please provide full details of their names and contacts. Our system will automatically send a notification to your recommenders' email address to guide them through the process.

It is your responsibility to ensure that the recommendations are submitted by the deadline.

STEP 6: Application inspector

Before you can submit your application electronically, your application will be reviewed for completeness. If there is missing data, you will be prompted to correct.

Review a PDF version of your application and print a copy for your records.

STEP 7: Submit your application

After completing this application and thoroughly reviewing it, you will submit it electronically to the Fulbright Program Office in Vietnam. You will receive an automatic reply to confirm the successful submission of your online application from our system.

Within 7-10 working days after the application deadline, the Fulbright Office in Vietnam will do technical screening of your application and send you a formal notification of your application status.

What does the Fulbright scholarship provide?

The scholarship provides grantees with the opportunity to pursue a master's degree at a university in the United States. The grant provides full tuition and fees, a living allowance, round-trip travel and health insurance.

How long is the program?

Most M.A. programs take 2 academic years to complete, although in some cases, the M.A. course will only be 10-12 months. Law students will take one academic year to complete their degrees. All grantees must remain in good academic standing to continue their program.

How many awards are there?

The number of scholarships depends on the amount of funding allocated by the US Department of State. Approximately 20-25 new grantees go to the U.S. each year.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

What are the minimum eligibility requirements for a Fulbright scholarship?

Vietnamese citizens from all regions in Vietnam are welcome to apply. Applicants must have at least a BA degree and have two years of work experience by the time of their application. All applicants must be proficient in English, as measured by a minimum 79 on TOEFL iBT or 6.5 on IELTS. Finally, the field of study that an applicant intends to pursue must be supported by the Fulbright Program.

Do I need an offer of admission from a university in the US prior to applying for a Fulbright award?

No. All grantees will be placed at universities by the Institute of International Education after attaining finalist status.

Which fields of study are supported by the Fulbright program?

In general, most fields in the Humanities and Social Sciences are supported by the Fulbright Program. Applicants who wish to obtain a Master's degree in the Natural Sciences, Computer Sciences, or Engineering are encouraged to contact the Vietnam Education Foundation.

Is there a minimum GPA for applicants?

No. Applicants will be evaluated based on the merits of their entire application, including their GPA, work experience, references, essays, and TOEFL/IELTS score.

Is there an age limit for applicants?

No, although most successful candidates are at an early or mid-point in their careers.

Do I need a Bachelor's degree in the same subject that I want to study for a Master's degree?

No. Master's degree programs in the U.S. do not require that applicants have a Bachelor's degree in the same subject. However, it is recommended that applicants have substantial work experience related to their intended field of study. One exception is Law: candidates for a Master's in Law must have a B.A. in Law. A master's in Economics may also require an academic background in economics or finance.

APPLYING

When should I apply for a Fulbright award?

Applicants who wish to obtain the scholarship to for the fall of 2014 should submit an application by May 2, 2013.

What are the components of an application?

All applicants are required to apply online. A complete online application consists of an application form, three confidential letters of reference, diplomas and transcripts from undergraduate and graduate degrees, and TOEFL iBT/IELTS score reports.

What makes an applicant successful?

A successful applicant is someone who can show a clear connection between their study objectives and future goals and who writes a compelling set of essays that describe their goals. Successful applicants also must demonstrate a proficiency in written and spoken English that will allow them to participate fully in graduate school courses.

It is not a requirement to have an academic background in the field you wish to pursue, but it is advisable to have some experience (via work or otherwise) in the field. Successful applicants tend to have a depth and breadth of work experience in their intended field of study that goes beyond the 1-year minimum requirement. These applicants also demonstrate the potential for leadership in the future.

What purpose do the study objectives essay and personal statement serve?

Graduate admissions offices at U.S. universities place a great deal of emphasis on the essays included in an application. The study objectives essay is a chance to describe your area of interest and academic goals, with specific examples of the course of study you intend to pursue. You should also explain why a program in the U.S. is an advantage over a similar course in another country. You may wish to present your career objectives and your specialized experience, and describe how you will use your degree upon returning to Vietnam. Your personal

statement is a chance to describe yourself and provide insight into how you have made the important decisions that have shaped your life to this point.

Keep in mind that grades in a U.S.-based graduate program are not based solely on exams, as they often are in Vietnam. Many courses require a thesis or other work to obtain a degree. Your writing skills, as demonstrated by your essays, will carry as much weight in your application as your grades and TOEFL score. In addition, a good academic record will demonstrate that you are committed to learning, and a high TOEFL score will be evidence that you have made a serious effort to attain the language skills necessary for graduate study in the United States.

How many reference letters do I need? Which referees should I choose?

You must provide three reference letters. Letters of reference are a very important component of your application. You should request references from teachers who can provide a thorough assessment of your academic performance and professional promise, or from people who have supervised you in work relevant to your proposed study.

I do not have much work experience in my chosen field. Will my application be at a disadvantage?

Work experience in the field you wish to pursue is an indication of your commitment to that field and is considered additional preparation for graduate work. Work experience can often make up for any academic experience you may lack. While it is not a mandatory requirement, a lack of relevant work experience may diminish your chances to earn the scholarship.

INTERVIEWS

What happens to my application after submission?

Your formal application will be reviewed by a committee, which will decide whether to recommend your application for an interview.

How many interview slots are there?

It depends on the number of qualified applicants. In general, we usually interview 50-60 applicants per year.

When are interviews held?

Interviews are held in the fall in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

Who is on the selection panel?

The selection committee is composed of Vietnamese and American experts in a variety of fields of study.

Receiving the scholarship

What happens after I am chosen as a finalist?

You will be required to sit for the official TOEFL (Internet-based) and GRE exams. MBA students will take the GMAT exam instead of the GRE, and Law students will only take the TOEFL exam. The Fulbright Program will provide you with test vouchers for these exams, as well as transportation to and from the test site if necessary.

Your application will then be sent to the Institute of International Education (IIE) in the United States. The IIE Placement office will review your application and send your dossier to a variety of universities. The Fulbright Program and IIE will make the final decision regarding your placement at a university, based on whether the program fits your academic needs and whether your qualifications meet the requirements of the university.

Will my score on the TOEFL/GRE/GMAT affect my placement at a university?

Yes. Each university in the U.S. has different admissions criteria, and therefore a low TOEFL score may make your application less competitive. Therefore, the Fulbright Program encourages finalists to prepare carefully for these exams. In general, the Program is able to successfully place Vietnamese grantees at appropriate university programs.

The application instructs applicants to name three-four universities of their choice. Will IIE honor my choice?

IIE will try to honor your choices. However, if there is no match between you and your choice, IIE will find other universities where you have a better chance of gaining admission.

Can I defer or delay the scholarship to the following year?

No. You should plan to apply for the year that you will be able to participate fully in the program.

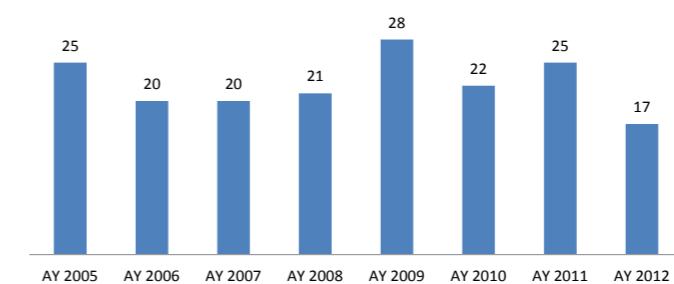
Does the Fulbright Program provide any orientation for grantees before leaving for the U.S.?

Yes. The Program will organize a pre-departure orientation in Vietnam for all grantees in May 2014.

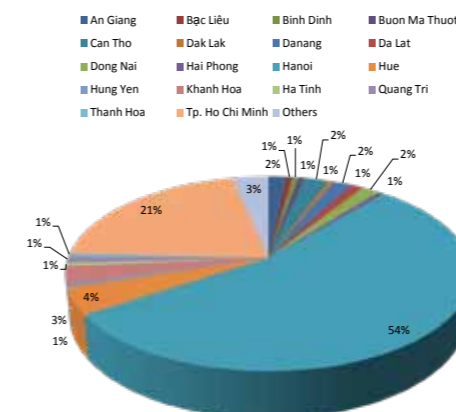
Are there any requirements attached to the Fulbright grant?

As part of a U.S. government-funded study program, all Fulbright grantees are subject to a 2-year home country residency requirement. This means that grantees may not apply for a work or immigrant visa to the U.S. until after two years of residence in Vietnam upon the completion of the Fulbright grant.

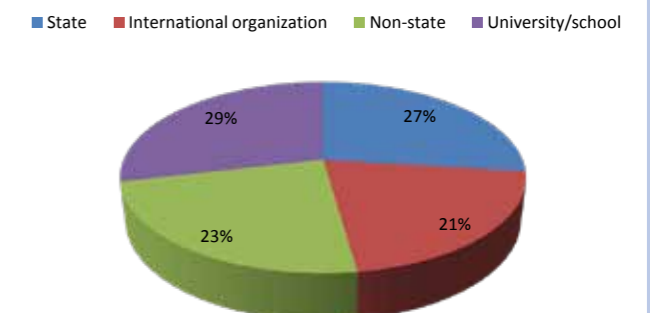
NUMBER OF GRANTS PER YEAR (2005-2012)



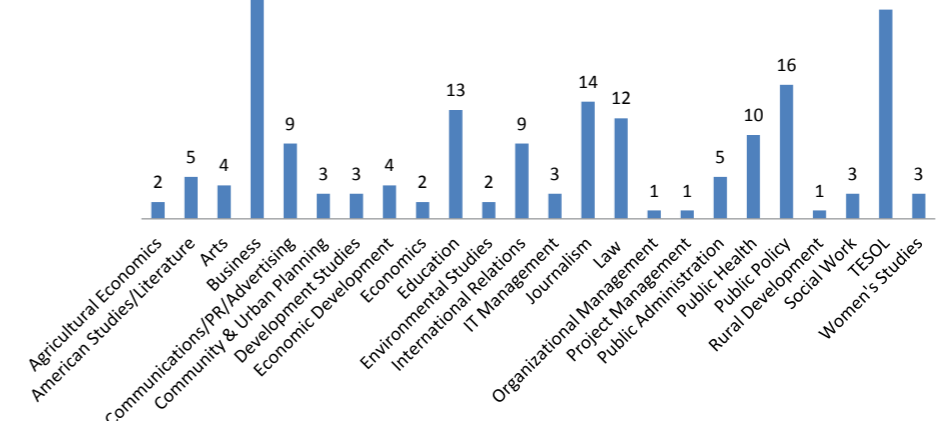
DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTEES BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS (2005-2012)



DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTEES BY AFFILIATION (2005-2012)



DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTEES BY FIELDS (2005-2012)





“The essence of intercultural education is the acquisition of empathy - the ability to see the world as others see it, and to allow for the possibility that others may see something we have failed to see, or many see it more accurately. The simple purpose of the exchange program... is eroding the culturally rooted mistrust that sets nations against one another. The exchange program is not a panacea but an avenue of hope.”

Senator J. William Fulbright

December 2012

Fulbright Vietnamese Student Program

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